

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2007, 3:00 P. M.
Room W135, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex**

Members Present: Sen. Lyle Hillyard, Committee Co-Chair
 Rep. Ron Bigelow, Committee Co-Chair
 Pres. John Valentine
 Sen. Curtis Bramble
 Sen. Gene Davis
 Sen. Mike Dmitrich
 Sen. Dan Eastman
 Sen. Pat Jones
 Sen. Sheldon Killpack
 Sen. Ed. Mayne

 Speaker Greg J. Curtis
 Rep. Ralph Becker
 Rep. David Clark
 Rep. Brad Dee
 Rep. Brad King
 Rep. David Litvack
 Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
 Rep. Gordon Snow
 Sen. Peter Knudson, Vice-Chair

Members Excused: Rep. Becky Lockhart, Vice Chair

Staff Present: John Massey, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Bonnie Brinton, Secretary
 Norda Shepard, Secretary

Speakers Present: Rep. Last
 Sen. Walker and Rep. Harper

A list of visitors is on file with the Committee minutes.

1. Call to Order---Committee Co-Chair Bigelow called the meeting to order at 3:25 p.m. He stated that Vice Chair Lockhart had asked to be excused due to family illness. He said the two documents requested from Health and Human Services and Workforce Services in the previous meeting were distributed and would go in the binders under page 5-46 and page 2-55. Also there was a revised spread sheet for

the ongoing new funding priorities to replace the one at the beginning of the binder.

2. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Public Education---Rep. Last stated Sen. Stephenson asked to be excused. Rep. Last presented the report of the Subcommittee's actions. He stated that one major item the Subcommittee addressed was teacher compensation. The Subcommittee is proposing a program to increase teacher's pay which consists of four elements: a \$2,500 base increase for teachers across the State; a 4% WPU increase; a one-time teacher bonus of \$1,000; and the Professional Excellence for Utah Educators program.

Another priority, reported Rep. Last, is 21st Century Technology for \$20 million and the Computers in Schools program for \$50 million. Next is Teacher Materials and Supplies for \$10 million; Charter School Start-up Funding for \$1.2 million; and finally, Class Size Reduction (H.B. 149) for \$5 million.

Rep. Moss asked about the funding for Concurrent Enrollment (1st Sub. H.B. 79) and for what the \$100,000 would be used. Rep. Last responded by stating that the money would be distributed throughout the State allowing local districts to decide how the money would be used.

Pres. Valentine asked if the Subcommittee had prepared a prioritized list. Rep. Last stated that the list is in alphabetical order and that it was difficult to prioritize without knowing the final amount of money available.

Rep. Last stated that the first four items on the list would be:

1. Ongoing support for teacher compensation
2. Four percent increase in WPU
3. Professional Excellence for Utah Educators program
4. One-time teacher bonus of \$1,000

- b. Transportation & Environmental Quality---Sen. Walker and Rep. Harper presented the report of the Subcommittee's recommendations. The report included reallocating \$88,100 from UDOT Engineering Services to Utah National Guard. Rep. Harper explained that the National Guard Tuition Assistance program had requested \$1 million and the Subcommittee is requesting \$911,900. The funding from UDOT to the National Guard would equal the \$1 million they are requesting. This request is first on the priority list.

Regarding Transportation, Rep. Harper stated that the Subcommittee felt this funding

should be ongoing instead of coming to the Legislature every year with one-time funding. He stated that this would be a more cost-effective way of allocating funds to Transportation.

Rep. Harper continued with the report stating that the Subcommittee had placed two requests for the National Guard at the top of the one-time priority list for IT Services and Veterans' Affairs Outreach Program. He also discussed the five items of one-time funding for transportation: Centennial Highway Fund No Bond; Bridge Replacement, Choke Point/Congestion Relief; Advanced Right of Way Acquisition; and East/West Corridor Planning (HB108).

Co-Chair Hillyard asked for more information on the Choke Point/Congestion Relief request of \$60 million, and Rep. Harper agreed to provide that information.

3. Other Committee Business---Co-Chair Bigelow reminded Committee members that they have intent language and fee schedules for each Subcommittee in the binders and asked them to come prepared on Wednesday to vote. He stated new revenue estimates should be available by the next meeting.

MOTION: Co-Chair Hillyard moved to adjourn.

Co-Chair Bigelow adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Minutes reported by Bonnie Brinton and Norda Shepard, Committee Secretaries.

Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard, Co-Chair

Rep. Ron Bigelow, Co-Chair